

BEACON SPORTS

The Behrend Beacon | 10

Friday, September 28, 2007

ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



NAME: Keith Yaegle
SPORT: Men's Water Polo
CLASS: Freshman
DATE: Sept. 24, 2007

Keith Yaegle (Warren/Warren) has been named the ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR athlete of the week for the week of Sept. 24, 2007.

Yaegle helped lead the Behrend Lions to a 2-3 record on the weekend at the Connecticut College invitational, where he tallied 64 saves on the weekend. He made 15 saves in both overtime wins against Queens and Connecticut College. Yaegle has tallied 136 saves to date, including blocking six of 12 5-meter penalty shots.

The men's water polo team will host a double header weekend starting Saturday, Sept. 29. First they will face Salem International at 11:30 a.m. and then the Lions will play Gannon at 5:30 p.m. in the Junker Center Pool.

Volleyball undefeated in AMCC

By Matt Waronker
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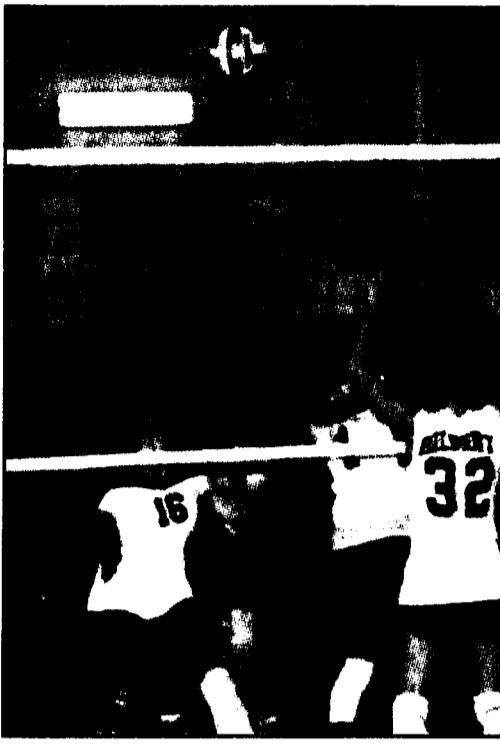
The Penn State Behrend volleyball team opened up AMCC conference play this past week with a pair of wins against La Roche College and Hilbert College. The Lady Lions swept both opponents in three games and improved their overall record to an impressive 11-5.

Appearing to have positively bounced back from their heartbreaking loss against Grove City just over a week ago, the Lady Lions have begun to establish themselves as a force in conference play. The team has made vast strides of improvement on both sides of the ball, with the catalyst of their game coming most notably from their unrelenting defensive play. Behrend has held their opponent in each match to under twenty points. Against La Roche, Behrend held the opposition to an average of 16 points and in their match against Hilbert, the visiting Hawks were held to a dismal average of 13 points per match.

"Our defensive effort has been excellent," said head coach Phil Pisano. "We've been very aggressive serving and a lot of the time our opponents haven't been able to get the ball to their setter which took away their attack."

By the same token, the Lady Lions offensive efforts have played an equally significant factor in the team's success. According to Pisano the team's hitters have been the spark the offense has been searching for.

"Our transition and ability to attack the net lately has been very impressive," said Pisano. "We've had a much better connection between our setters and our hitters. Our hitters have put the ball



KEEGAN McGREGOR
Behrend volleyball sweeps Hilbert in 3 games.

away very quickly which has been something we've worked hard on. It's really cut down the chance for the other team to rally."

Against Hilbert this past Wednesday evening, a Hawks rally wasn't even a possibility. A young Hilbert squad fell behind early in game one as Behrend sprang to a commanding lead and never had to look back. Behrend won game one 30-15, and in similar fashion won game two by a score of 30-17. The Lady Lions continued to dominate and with little surprise captured game three 30-9.

Freshman Danielle Woods had an outstanding game with seven kills, seven digs, and five aces. Also contributing in the team's victory was junior Jenna Benzenhoefer with eight kills and three crucial blocks. Sophomore Shelia Ogden added ten kills.

While the Lady Lions first two conference opponents weren't exactly a legitimate test for a growing Behrend squad since combined La Roche and Hilbert have yet to produce a single conference victory, head coach Pisano still feels the wins will have a positive effect on the team.

"It's great we're creating momentum for ourselves," said Pisano. "Although we weren't faced with any pressure situations in these games we feel we're making improvements and we want to continue down that path."

The Lady Lions will look to remain undefeated in conference play as they host Pitt-Greensburg this Saturday at 4 at the Junker Center. One of the two other teams still undefeated in conference play, Pitt-Greensburg expects to be a much tougher opponent than La Roche or Hilbert.

"Pitt-Greensburg is a much stronger team than in the past," notes Pisano. "They're a young and quick team. I'm excited for the match-up."

Do you have a love for sports? Are you interested in writing?

The Behrend Beacon is looking for sports writers for the Fall 2007 Semester.

Contact Andy McLachlan at asm5006@psu.edu or Matt Waronker at mbw5028@psu.edu.

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